



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

PHOTOGRAPH OF A BRIGHT METEOR.

ANSONIA, Connecticut, March 18, 1893.

Secretary of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific.

DEAR SIR:—I take pleasure in sending herewith a print of a meteor trail which I obtained on January 13 of this year. I was trying to get a photograph of HOLMES' comet to add to some I had already made, and while so engaged was startled by a bright light. On developing the plate I found that an immense meteor had passed directly across the centre of my plate (a 4 x 5). The exposure on the stars was for 33 minutes, and although these are very distinct and show down to $10\frac{1}{2}$ magnitude, the meteor trail, which was of course instantaneous, is very much more intense than any of the stars.

This plate is valuable also as testifying to the extreme faintness of HOLMES' comet on January 13, the exposure of 33 minutes failing to bring it out. Within three days it had altered, as you know, to an 8th magnitude star. The change, therefore, must have taken place after the 13th. Microscopic examination of the meteor trail reveals very remarkable fluctuations of the light of the meteor during its passage across the plate. An enlargement of about seventeen times looks like a row of knots tied in a string. These are undoubtedly due to small pieces breaking off, and also to the revolution of the meteor on its axis.

Yours respectfully,

JOHN E. LEWIS, Member A. S. P.

LARGE DISCS OF OPTICAL GLASS.

It is reported that MANTOIS of Paris, the celebrated maker of optical glass, is preparing discs thirty inches in diameter to be exhibited at the World's Fair. It is to be hoped that they may be figured and retained in this country. They ought to come to California. The number of observatories provided with powerful telescopes can still be increased without having too many. The science of astronomy is broadening rapidly, new fields of investigation are being opened up, and by reason of the vast amount and great variety of work to be done, no one great telescope would necessarily duplicate the work of another. For this reason great telescopes are not competitors.

W. J. HUSSEY.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, March, 1893.